Reply to Office Action of October 14, 2004

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A Saystem for inserting a weft thread into a shed of an air jet weaving machine (1), said system including a thread store (21), a measuring apparatus (23.1, 23.2) in order to be able to measure the weft thread (2) which is drawn off from the thread store (21), a plurality of air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a e to 5.na e) for the insertion of the weft thread (2) and a control system (10) which is connected to the measuring apparatus (23.1, 23.2) in order to be able to control the compressed air supply of the air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a e to 5.na e) in dependence on measurement values of the measuring apparatus (23.1, 23.2), characterized in that

wherein switch on points  $(x_j)$  are associated with the air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a - c + c + c); and wherein in that the control system (10) charges one or more than one of the air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a - c + c + c + c + c + c) with compressed air as soon as a predictor value  $(x_F)$  for the position of the west thread tip, which is formed with the help of the measurement values, reaches the switch on point  $(x_i)$  of the relevant air nozzle or air nozzles respectively.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 1, with wherein the air nozzles including include at least one of at least one main nozzle (3) and/or at least one tandem nozzle, (4) and one or more than one relay nozzles (5.1a c to 5.na c), and with wherein switch-on points  $(x_i)$  being are associated with the relay nozzles (5.1a c to 5.na c), and with wherein the control system (10) charging one or charges more than one of the relay nozzles (5.1a c to 5.na c) with compressed air as soon as a predictor value  $(x_i)$  for the position of the weft thread tip which is formed with the help of the measurement values reaches the switch-on point  $(x_i)$  of the relevant relay nozzle or relay nozzles respectively.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 1, wherein with the switch-on point  $(x_i)$  of an air nozzle corresponding to the position of the air nozzle in the shed, or, respectively, in the case of a group of air nozzles (5.1a-e to 5.na-e) which are charged

Reply to Office Action of October 14, 2004

with compressed air at the same time, time corresponds to the position of the first air nozzle (5.1a to 5.na) of the group.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 1, wherein with the predictor value  $(x_F)$  for the position of the weft thread tip containsing a safety value or factor which depends in particular on at least one of the resolution of the measuring apparatus, and/or on the switch-on time for the pressure build up in the region of the relevant air nozzle and/or on the speed  $(v_F)$  of the weft thread tip.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 1, wherein with the predictor value for at least one of the position  $(x_F)$  of the west thread tip and/or the speed  $(v_F)$  of the west thread tip being are formed as a result of the measurement values which are determined for the current west thread (2).

Claim 6 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 1, wherein with switch off points being are associated with the air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a e to 5.na e), wherein with the control system (10) switchesing off one or more of the air nozzles which are charged with compressed air as soon as the predictor value  $(x_F)$  for the position of the weft thread tip which is formed as a result of the measurement values reaches the switch off point of the relevant air nozzle or air nozzles respectively, and, in particular, with wherein the switch off point has having a predetermined distance from the switch on point of the relevant air nozzle or air nozzles respectively, and/or with wherein the switch off point correspondsing to the position of a subsequent air nozzle in the shed.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 1, with wherein the air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a e to 5.na e) includeing at least one of at least one main nozzle, (3) and/or at least one tandem nozzle, (4) and one or more relay nozzles (5.1a e to 5.na e), and wherein with it is being possible to couple the switch off points of the main nozzle (3) and/or tandem nozzle (4) to the switch off point of a predetermined relay nozzle (5.1a e to 5.na e).

Claim 8 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 1, with wherein the thread store is (21) being formed as a drum store onto which the west thread can be wound,

Application No. 10/811,201

Amendment

Reply to Office Action of October 14, 2004

and wherein with the measuring apparatus is being arranged at the thread store (21) and include sing at least one sensor (23.1, 23.2) in order to be able to measure the draw off of at least one of windings and/or of partial windings from the drum store (22).

Claim 9 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least one of with at least one additional sensor is being provided in the path of travel of the weft thread in order to be able to measure the position of the weft thread tip, and/or a weft thread monitor (7) is provided on the weft thread arrival side of the shed.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 1, wherein with the system additionally includesing a thread brake (9) in order to be able to brake the west thread (2) in particular towards the end of the west insertion when the west thread tip approaches the west thread arrival side of the shed.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 19, wherein with the control system (10) additionally includesing a regulation device (10.2) which is connected to at least one of the sensors, (23.1, 23.2) and/or to the sensor in the path of travel of the weft thread and/or to the weft thread monitor (7) in order to be able to determine, from the measurement values of at least one of the sensors and/or of the weft thread monitor (7), the time required for the insertion of the weft thread (2) and to be able to compare it with a predetermined desired insertion time, and in order to be able to regulate at least one of the pressure, and/or the blowing time and/or the flow through the air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a c to 5.na c) using the difference between the time required for the insertion of the weft thread (2) and the desired insertion time.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A Mmethod for the insertion of a weft thread into a shed of an air jet weaving machine (1), wherein in said method the weft thread is (2) being drawn off from a thread store (21), the drawn off weft thread (2) being measured with the help of a measuring apparatus, (23.1, 23.2) wherein the weft thread is (2) being inserted into the shed by means of a plurality of air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a e to 5.na e) and a control system (10) controlling the compressed air supply of the air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a e to 5.na e) in dependence on measurement values of the measuring apparatus (23.1, 23.2),

## wherein characterized in that

switch on points  $(x_i)$  are associated with the air nozzles  $(3, 4, 5.1a \cdot c \cdot to \cdot 5.na \cdot c)$ ; and in that wherein predictor values  $(x_i)$  for the position of the west thread tip are formed with the help of the measurement values;

and in that, in particular, wherein a safety value or factor is contained in the predictor values (\*\*\*) for the position of the west thread tip;

and wherein in that the control system (10) charges one or more of the air nozzles with compressed air as soon as a predictor value  $(x_F)$  for the position of the west thread tip, which is formed with the help of the measurement values, reaches the switch on point  $(x_F)$  of the relevant air nozzle or air nozzles, respectively.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein with the time which is required for the insertion of the weft thread (2) additionally is being determined and compared with a predetermined desired insertion time, and wherein using the difference between the time required for the insertion of the weft thread (2) and the desired insertion time is being used in order to regulate at least one of the pressure, and/or the blowing time and/or the flow through the air nozzles (3, 4, 5.1a c to 5.na c).

Claim 14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (new): A system for inserting a west thread into a shed of an air jet weaving machine, said system including a thread store, a measuring apparatus in order to be able to measure the west thread which is drawn off from the thread store, a plurality of air nozzles for the insertion of the west thread and a control system which is connected to the measuring apparatus in order to be able to control the compressed air supply of the air nozzles in dependence on measurement values of the measuring apparatus,

wherein switch on points and switch off points are associated with the air nozzles; wherein the control system charges one or more of the air nozzles with compressed air as soon as a predictor value for the position of the west thread tip, which is

formed with the help of the measurement values, reaches the switch on point of the relevant air nozzle or air nozzles respectively; and

wherein the control system switches off one or more of the air nozzles which are charged with compressed air as soon as the predictor value for the position of the weft thread tip which is formed as a result of the measurement values reaches the switch off point of the relevant air nozzle or air nozzles respectively, wherein the switching off of the relevant air nozzle or air nozzles respectively is delayed in relation to the switching on of one of the subsequent air nozzles.

Claim 17 (new): A system in accordance with claim 16, wherein the switch off point of the relevant air nozzle or air nozzles, respectively, has a predetermined distance from the switch on point of this air nozzle or these air nozzles respectively.

Claim 18 (new): A system in accordance with claim 16, wherein the air nozzles include at least one of at least one main nozzle and at least one tandem nozzle, and one or more relay nozzles, and wherein it is possible to couple the switch off points of the main nozzle and/or tandem nozzle to the switch off point of a predetermined relay nozzle.

Claim 19 (new): A system for inserting a weft thread into a shed of an air jet weaving machine, said system including a thread store, a measuring apparatus in order to be able to measure the weft thread which is drawn off from the thread store, a plurality of air nozzles for the insertion of the weft thread and a control system which is connected to the measuring apparatus in order to be able to control the compressed air supply of the air nozzles in dependence on measurement values of the measuring apparatus;

wherein switch on points are associated with the air nozzles;

wherein predictor values for the position of the west thread tip are formed with the help of the measurement values;

wherein a safety value or factor is contained in the predictor values for the position of the weft thread tip; and

wherein the control system charges one or more of the air nozzles with compressed air as soon as a predictor value for the position of the west thread tip, which is Application No. 10/811,201 Amendment Reply to Office Action of October 14, 2004

formed with the help of the measurement values, reaches the switch on point of the relevant air nozzle or air nozzles, respectively.